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Executive Registry

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

6 February 1976

The Honorable Otis Pike, Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Chairman Pike:

With the investigative work of the House Select Committee on Intelligence having been completed, I would like to raise two questions relating to the disposition of classified documents sent to the HSC. I raise this issue with you as spokesman for the Intelligence Community.

During the investigation, certain highly sensitive documents were sent on a loan basis with the understanding that they would be returned to originating agency once the immediate need for them had passed. I would hope that we can arrange for the return of these documents at your earliest convenience.

A larger question concerns permanent safe storage of the other documents. Obviously, each agency would be happy to serve as the custodian of these documents and if this meets the Committee's needs, we can arrange for the storage of such classified material in a fully acceptable fashion.

Alternatively, you may wish to store the materials in some other acceptable institution such as the National Archives and Records Services. To this end, our essential concerns are three-fold:

- a) The documents should be separately and securely stored
- b) Access to the documents should be carefully controlled

- c) Any future declassification of the documents should be conducted in concert with the organizations originating the documents, and in accordance with appropriate statutes and Executive Orders.

One additional request concerns classified material sent to your office by the National Security Council. It is requested that this material be placed in a separate safe, and that special rules for access to this material be worked out with the National Security Council.

Please be assured that we will extend any aid and assistance necessary to your staff to insure that the documents now in your possession are safely transferred and stored in a manner which will make them readily available to future Congressional Committees authorized to have such access.

Sincerely,

/s/ George Bush

George Bush
Director